FBIS DAILY REPORT

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U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS ARRIVES 6 MARCH

PY061837 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (NA) -- U.S. assistant secretary for inter-American affairs arrived at Ezeiza International Airport at 1430 today. The official, who will stay in Argentina until next Tuesday refused to make any statements "before meeting with the authorities of this country," as he explained to the journalists. Mr Enders was met at the airport by Argentine Under Secretary for Foreign Relations Enrique Ros, Argentine ambassador to Washington Esteban Tackacs and U.S. ambassador to Buenos Aires Harry Schlaudeman.

OAS LEADER SAYS NO INTERVENTION FORCE PLANNED

PY052122 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 5 Mar 82 p 9

[Text] NA -- "There has been no motion raised within the Organization of American States (OAS) for the setting up of an inter-American military force to act in Central America," OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila announced upon his arrival in Buenos Aires yesterday. "I know of no initiative of this sort for the creation of a military force," he said, "but what I can say is that in general, whenever this type of motion has been put forth it has met with no support within the OAS.' He explained the passive role played by the OAS in the face of the armed conflicts taking place in El Salvador and Nicaragua by saying that "the role played by the OAS is that desired for it by its member governments." The organization he added, "reflects the interest of (its member) governments on a given issue, and how they want to put the OAS to work. The OAS does not act by itself, but according to what (those) governments want."

In the case of El Salvador, Orfila said, "The OAS signed a very important resolution at its latest assembly. Some days ago it also decided to send a special mission of three observers; and the human rights committee has taken and is still taking decisive action (on the issue)."

A OAS mission was sent to El Salvador in 1978 which one year later reported their findings to the organization", Orfila said, adding that "during the current session, the human rights committee is to bring up for discussion a series of data and accusations filed on El Salvador." But he pointed out that, it was his belief that "the problems of El Salvador are its own problems to be solved by the Salvadorans."

U.S. BASE IN BEAGLE AREA REPORTEDLY PLANNED

PY062059 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1325 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Cordoba, 2 Mar (NA) -- Gilberto Molina, a former mayor of this city, reported that "allegedly there is a plan to set up a Yankee military base in the Beagle Channel islands" jointly with Chile. He maintained that the UK is planning to survey and exploit the Argentine Antarctic waters and to award them to a Chilean-Polish consortium. Molina added that "Argentina will build refrigerator ships for Poland to catch the krill in our Antarctic sea jointly with Chile." Molina made these statements on a low-power radio station at Arroyito in this province.

Further on he charged that "the United States is pressuring Argentina to relinquish the Beagle Channel islands to Chile, for reportedly there is a plan to set up a Yankee military base on these islands along with an English plan to symbolically return the Malvinas to Argentina." This will allegedly be done "in exchange for their leasing and for the granting of oil exploitation rights over the Malvinas Islands' basin."

Molina, who served as mayor during Arturo Frondizi's administration, reported that "allegedly there is a plan between the governments of Washington and of Santiago, Chile to jointly set up a Yankee military base on the Beagle Channel islands" and that the British survey plan for the exploitation of the Argentine Antarctic sea has been drawn up at the "York computing center." Through this plan "The Eastern coast of the Antarctic Peninsula will allegedly be awarded to a Chilean-Polish consortium."

FOREIGN MINISTER TERMS BRAZIL VISIT 'VERY GOOD'

PY052329 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2045 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez has regarded as good, very good the visit he concluded today in the Federative Republic of Brazil and noted that it was instrumental in consolidating the friendship existing between the two nations in keeping with tradition, reason, history and future development. Speaking to newsmen at the Jorge Newberry Metropolitan Airport shortly after his arrival in the country, Costa Mendez said that between countries the size of Argentina and Brazil there are always issues to be discussed and to be overcome. He said: I believe the objective of my visit has been entirely fulfilled. I am very satisfied. I have had a very good reception which, of course, was intended for the Argentine Republic and not for me personally. Before leaving the airport, and referring specifically to the results of his visit to Brazil, Costa Mendez said that it was instrumental in furthering the commercial ties existing between the two nations.

EXTENSION OF GALTIERI AS HEAD OF ARMY CONSIDERED

PY072207 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 7 Mar 82 p 9

[Text] (NA) -- Top army officers, who held a lengthy meeting at the high command yesterday, reportedly discussed the possibility of President Leopoldo Galtieri continuing as commander-in-chief of the army throughout next year. Usually reliable sources were quoted as saying that major generals who head up the five main army corps spoke in the 8-hour meeting with General Galtieri on the political, labor, economic and social situation in their respective jurisdictions.

Galtieri on Friday night officially closed the major generals' meeting and the generals' plenary sessions which had taken place on Thursday and Friday, but the major generals continued their talks yesterday throughout the entire day. Attending the meeting were Major Generals Cristino Nicolaides, Juan Carlos Trimarco, Eugenio Guanabens Perello, Llamil Reston and Osvaldo Garcia, heads of the first (Palermo), second (Rosario), third (Cordoba), fourth (La Pampa) and fifth (Bahia Blanca) army corps, respectively.

Highly reliable sources close to the high command admitted that the possibility of Galtieri continuing as head of the army after his mandate runs out at the end of this year may have been discussed. Apparently under discussion is whether or not the presidency should once again be placed in the hands of a "fourth man" figure, that is to say, a retired general who acts only as head of government while the military junta holds supreme power as head of state.

This was the case with the governments of General Jorge Rafael Videla and General Roberto Viola in the first stages of the national reorganization process. Both had been commanders of the army and members of the junta before retiring and becoming "fourth-man" presidents.

With the removal "for reasons of state" of Viola by the junta and the rise to office of Galtieri, this practice was broken. Galtieri now holds three of the country's most powerful posts simultaneously. Army commander, president and junta member.

Alternatives now would be for the president to become a "fourth man" when he comes up for retirement at the end of this year; for the army command to extend his mandate for a year; or for his mandate to be extended until his term as president ends in 1984. Sources suggest that the consenus of opinion within the commands of the three armed forces is that whether or not Galtieri remains the head of the army is an internal question on which the army leadership alone must decide. Taking this further, it is reported that up to now neither the air force nor the navy has objected to a possible decision for General Galtieri to continue as army commander and president of the nation.

COSTA MENDEZ UNSATISFIED WITH TALKS OVER MALVINAS

PY051541 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0216 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Brasilia, 4 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez stated here tonight that he is unsatisfied with the little success reached over 17 years of negotiations with Great Britain over the sovereignty of the Malvinas Islands. As a consequence, he added, his country will try to recover them through all the peaceful means at hand. Costa Mendez held a press conference at the end of his 2-day visit to Brazil and referred to this subject in response to questions from journalists.

In pointing out that Argentina has no doubts about its sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, he stated that Great Britain, with no right, has been keeping its hold on the islands for the last 150 years. Costa Mendez added that his nation, which he termed a peaceful nation, 17 years ago started negotiations which have not been very successful with the United Nations and Great Britain, within the framework of the UN.

He said: We are not satisfied with the result of the negotiations carried out up to date. Minister Mendez then announced that his country will try, through all the means which the UN Charter makes available, to recover its sovereignty over the islands.

When asked whether Argentina would resort to military means he answered: Those means are not included in the UN Charter.

CGT YOUTHS STAGE DEMONSTRATION AGAINST REGIME

PY052253 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (NA) -- Approximately 30 youths today staged a lightning demonstration at Plaza Once in which they threw leaflets criticizing the military government. Some of them were detained by the police. Shortly after 1800, the demonstrators threw light blue leaflets signed by the General Labor Confederation [CGT] with the following slogans: "Stop Intervening in Unions," "Stop Famine and Unemployment," "We Demand the Return to the State of Law," "Stop Military Dictatorship," and "Mobilization and Courage To Defend the Fatherland." Plainclothes policemen detained several persons in front of the Bernardino Rivadavia mausoleum, witnesses said. The demonstration lasted only a few minutes and a police personnel carrier arrived after the demonstrators had dispersed. Neither the names nor the number of the detainees are known.

28 Arrested

PY061916 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0015 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Police sources today reported that 28 people were arrested this afternoon in downtown Buenos Aires for throwing labor union leaflets. The 24 people who were arrested in the Plaza Once area are at present at the 7th police station and the other 4, who were arrested at the corner of Florida and Corrientes Streets, are at the 1st police station.

Disseminators Released

PY072227 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 7 Mar 82 p 9

[Text] All 54 [number as printed] people detained on Friday in two different demonstrations, one on Florida and Corrientes and one in Plaza Miserere (Once), were released yesterday after having been booked, the police said. Four people detained as they were throwing pro-human rights leaflets were charged with infringing on the ban on political gatherings, the police told the HERALD, while the Peronists who were demonstrating in Once against state intervention in labor unions and against unemployment were charged with disrupting public order.

ARGENTINA'S COSTA MENDEZ DEPARTS FOR HOME

PY051720 Paris AFP in Spanish 1524 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Mar (AFP) -- Argentine Foreign Minister Nicandor Costa Mendez today returned to Buenos Aires after paying a 2-day official visit to Brazil. The Argentine foreign minister, who arrived in Brasilia last Wednesday, departed from the military base of Brasilia airport after receiving the farewell of his Brazilian counterpart Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro. During his stay in Brasilia Costa Mendez met with Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo and held two working meetings with Saraiva Guerreiro.

PRESIDENT OPENS PARTY ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

PY051341 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The president made a speech before approximately 5,000 persons during a ceremony in which he handed over more than 5,000 deeds to the squatters of Brasilia Teimosa shanty town in (Pina) neighborhood in Recife. This speech was practically the official opening of the Social Democratic Party [PDS] campaign in Pernambuco State.

After pointing out his government's achievements and criticizing the political parties of the opposition the president of the republic stated: They asked for democracy and I told them I would turn this country into a democracy; they asked me for amnesty and I stated that I would grant it but they still called me a liar: they asked me for freedom of the press and the media are free to state opinions; they asked me for direct elections for state governorships and they doubt that the 15 November elections will be held.

In another part of his speech the president stated that although the opposition may continue to doubt his word he would continue to fulfill the peoples' demands with deeds and actions.

In Brasilia Teimosa Joao Figueiredo gave an order: that PDS politicians go out to seek votes urgently because I do not wish to end my term in office surrounded by a group of losers.

SPECULATION ON FIGUEIREDO TACTICS TO PP-PMDB MOVE

PY080018 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 7 Mar 82 p 5

[Special to the DAILY POST by Herbert Zschech]

[Text] Rio de Janeiro -- After repeated statements from Planalto sources expressing the government's "irritation", along with an implicit threat of countermoves, about the incorporation of the moderate opposition party PP [Popular Party] by the radical opposition party PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party], official reaction to Tuesday's tribunal of elections verdict approving the incorporation was surprisingly soft. According to Planalto spokesman, the government has taken "cognizance" of the tribunal's ruling, and accepts it as an accomplished fact, without any thought of revisal, "at least immediately." The tribunal decided, 4 to 2, that incorporation of one party by another is not the same as a merger of two parties, the latter being forbidden by the electoral legislation. The tribunal said that the incorporation leaves entirely intact one of the two parties concerned, maintaining its platform and program which are simply endorsed by the members of the other party.

Previously, and still on the eve of the tribunal meeting, Planalto sources had not only hinted that the incorporation was not acceptable to the government, but also expressed certainty that the tribunal would veto it. The attorney of the republic had been instructed to seek annulment of the incorporation by all legal means. The verdict therefore was clearly a defeat for the government, which makes all the more surprising the apparent resignation now demonstrated by the regime in swallowing it.

According to the principal policy makers of the regime, Ministers Leitao de Abreu and Abi Ackel, the government will not come up immediately with new legislative projects for changing again the election rules, as had been previously announced. The official version now is that "should new reforms be proposed by the government, this would not be a direct answer to the incorporation of the PP by the PMDB, but a question of political convenience in general. For the time being, the government will leave to its PDS [Social Democratic Party] in the congress the initiative for any new projects, without exerting pressure and respecting the freedom of opinion of each PDS member.

Considering that by the end of last month, the PDS members in the congress had all been ordered to appear and stay in Brasilia during the first half of March for approval of important projects deemed necessary and vital by the regime, the new attitude of the government indicates a switch of opinion, who can hardly be definitive. It could even be a strategical expedient intended to increase the impact of new government projects which might be announced quite suddenly, perhaps within the next few days.

President Figueiredo's "indication" over the incorporation was motivated by the impression that it virtually restored the two-party system, with polarization between the government's party and the opposition, which would transform the forthcoming elections into a plebiscite for or against the regime. Now, however, on second thought, the government seems to study in the first place various ideas on how to strengthen the small parties not belonging to either of the two blocs, such as Lula's [Luis Ignacio da Silva] Workers Party -- PT -- and Ivete Vargas' Labor Party, PTB. The presumption is that those parties will not seriously threaten the government's PDS while they might deprive the opposition party PMDB of a large number of votes. But to make this strategy work, it might be indispensable to change items in the present legislation on the elections concerning required minimum numbers of votes in the states and nationwide.

In this context, thought is being given to a formerly discarded project -- now revived paradoxically, by a PMDB deputy, Edison Vidigal -- calling for a system of voting without party labels. Voters simply would vote for individual candidates, with no regard to their party memberships, and those elected would then decide what party they will join. The suggestions seem to elicit some favor in official quarters and within the government's PDS. Its principal advantage for the government would be that voters would have to pay more attention to the individual characteristics, opinions and talents of candidates, with lesser regard to whether they are supporters or adversaries of the regime in general. This would require also radical changes in the so-called Falcao law on campaigning by radio and television. It is fully admitted, also by the government, that this law will have to be revised, which will be done in the near future. Should candidates be allowed to campaign without a party label, this would render superfluous and intractable all the present limitations of broadcast time for political parties.

GOVERNMENT TO HONOR DECISION ON PP-PMDB MERGER

PY050126 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpt] President Figueiredo will fully respect the decision of the Electoral Court which has approved the merger of the Popular Party -- PP -- with the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party -- PMDB -- presidential spokesman Carlos Atila has said at Planalto Palace.

After stating that the government will not take any reprisal measures due to the merger, Atila stated that the decision of rhe Electoral Court was no surprise to the government.

[Begin Atila recording] As I said earlier, the government has been following the unraveling of the process because this was a process based on the opposition to the merger, by members of the merging parties themselves. Yet the government has remained outside the process. From the very beginning, the government has expressed its concern over the decision by these two parties only because the president of the republic considers a multiparty system to be essential, extremely important, for promoting democracy in the country and for the success of his plan for democratic opening.

[Question] Now, minister, do you believe this merger has undermined the multiparty system?

[Answer] The merger was obviously a setback, since two major parties have become a single party. What annoys the government is the fact that the merger has reduced political elbow room. Moderate opposition members themselves from both parties [passage indistinct] in several points of the country. Thus, it is democracy which has suffered a setback as a result of the opposition decision which has radicalized the process. [end recording]

POLISH TRADE OFFICIAL MEETS WITH NETO, GALVEAS

PY041151 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The Polish under secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Trade, Antoni Karas, met with Planning Minister Delfim Neto and Finance Minister Ernane Galveas this morning. At the conclusion of the meeting Minister Delfim Neto said in relation to the Polish debt with Brazil that the situation is normal.

[Begin Neto recording] Brazil already has an arrangement with Poland and will continue to fulfill that arrangement. [end recording]

During a brief interview, Delfim Neto said:

[Begin Neto recording] [Words indistinct] the debt, we have not increased Brazilian (?exports) to Poland. They are paying the interest on the debt [words indistinct] 10 percent of every payment due and we are going to study the situation. [end recording]

Minister Ernane Galveas also took part in the meeting. He said that there has been no increase of Brazilian exports to Poland, so that the debt is gradually going to be paid off.

Until now Poland has fulfilled all its due commitments to Brazil, paying 10 percent. Therefore, Brazil can expand its exports to that country. Minister Ernane Galveas said:

[Begin Galveas recording] Poland is fulfilling, I would say strictly, the plan we agreed to in Warsaw. [end recording]

Regarding the total debt with Brazil, the finance minister said:

[Begin Galveas recording] [Words indistinct] it all depends on the 10 percent being included in the debt. There are many things involved in this, like financing exports for example; payments, such as those on capital goods, can take up to 7 or 8 years. There are imports from Poland which are financed. [end recording]

The finance minister then discussed Brazilian-Polish trade.

[Begin Galveas recording] Brazil exports to Poland goods worth $500 million and imports goods worth $75 [million]. We have to make a greater effort to increase imports from Poland. There are many Polish articles that could find a market here. Poland is increasing its import of [words indistinct] coal because the price of coal fell from 200 to 160 [words indistinct] per ton is going back to normal, therefore they plan to (?buy) more coal, sulphur, copper and manufactured goods. [end recording]

Regarding the meeting, Minister Ernane Galveas said that the situation of the Brazilian-Polish trade was not resolved, rather it was put on the right course. The minister said that Poland is making a great effort to increase its exports to Brazil to gradually reduce its debt.

FLEXIBILITY REGARDING POLISH DEBT DECIDED

PY051742 Paris AFP in Spanish 2027 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Brasilia, 4 Mar (AFP) -- Sources of the Brazilian Planning Ministry stated here today that Brazil will be flexible regarding the payment of Poland's debt but that it will prevent the debt from growing.

Poland, Brazil's second biggest client in Eastern Europe, owes Brazil $1.5 billion.

Brazilian leaders have promised the Polish authorities to grant that country new credits for the equivalent of the reimbursements and Polish exports up to a limit of $1.5 billion.

Jose Botafogo Goncalves, head of the Planning Ministry's International Affairs Department, stated that the Brazilian position clearly demonstrates its understanding of Poland's problems. A hard line position would have simply interrupted bilateral trade until Poland paid back its debt completely.

This year Poland would have to repay Brazil $400 million. The means of payment will be analyzed by the Planning Ministry.

At present Brazil exports to Poland goods worth $500 million, including soybeans and soybean byproducts, cocoa and cocoa byproducts and textiles.

Meanwhile, it was stated in the Planning Ministry that the Brazilian foreign debt (some $60 billion) cannot be compared with that of Poland.

Minister Antonio Delfim Neto stated that nobody complains about our foreign debt. He added that Brazil administers its debt very well and that there are no reasons for concern over Brazil settling that debt.

GOVERNMENT TO GRANT ASYLUM TO 19 SAILORS

PY051355 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Today Brazil will grant political asylum to the remaining 19 Polish sailors who disembarked in Vitoria and Paranagua ports. The Polish sailors must now sign a document promising to make no political statements as well as not to leave the region without informing the federal police beforehand.

BRIEFS

NEW OIL DEPOSIT -- The Brazilian Petroleum Corporation (PETROBRAS) announced a record production of petroleum at the beginning of this week with the extraction of 270,939 barrels of crude from land and sea deposits. In February the average production reached 253,000 barrels which represents an increase of 15 percent compared to February 1981. It also confirmed the discovery of a new oil deposit in the Campos Basin, on the Rio de Janeiro coastline. Initial production amounted to 1,302 barrels per day. (Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Mar 82 PY]

GOVERNMENT AGAIN EXTENDS STATE OF EMERGENCY

PY051951 Paris AFP in Spanish 2219 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Santiago, 4 Mar (AFP) -- The government of Gen Augusto Pinochet today extended for another 3 months the state of emergency which has been in force in Chile since September 1973 in the wake of the ouster of the civilian government of Socialist President Salvador Allende. The rules in force under the state of emergency, which are less stiff than those of the state of siege, empower the military authorities to restrict public liberties, the right to meet and other civic guarantees.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON RELATIONS WITH FRANCE

PY051346 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames has stated that the summoning of the FRG, French and British ambassadors is only a routine procedure. When asked about our relations with France he remarked that they are normal in the economic and social fields. Regarding the political level the foreign minister said that it should be presumed that relations are fair or better than fair. Foreign Minister Rene Rojas explained that Chile has not sent any official invitation to French President Francois Mitterrand to visit the country. Rojas made this statement in reply to questions regarding the French president's statements that he has no interest in visiting Chile. Mitterrand made this remark in Tel Aviv during his tour of Israel. Foreign Minister Rojas Galdames showed surprise at the words of the French socialist president, because he has not been invited to Chile, so he can hardly carry on saying that he will not go to a place where there are not even any plans to receive him.

PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON TUCAPEL JIMENEZ MURDER

PY052237 Paris AFP in Spanish 1408 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 4 Mar (AFP) -- Chilean President Augusto Pinochet stated today that those who oppose his government are the ones who profit more from the murder of labor union leader Tucapel Jimenez which occurred last Thursday. President Pinochet also rejected press rumors which made it look like he said that the communists were the murderers of the president of state workers union. Fernando Paredes, director of investigations (civil police), also stated that there are some 300 detectives who make up the special brigade whose only mission is to capture the perpetrators of the crime committed in a peasant area near Santiago, Chile. Paredes did not rule out the possibility that a commando group made up of a dozen persons could be the perpetrator of the murder of the union leader, who 2 weeks ago called on Chilean workers to form a broad front to oppose the current economic policy.

BASIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH JORDAN

PY052317 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] The basic agreement of economic, technical and cultural cooperation signed between the Republic of Chile and Jordan on 11 March 1981 has been ratified. Present at the ceremony which took place in the Red Hall of the Foreign Ministry were Chilean Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames and Jordanian Ambassador to Chile Wa'il al-Masri and other officials. The Chilean foreign minister stated on the occasion that this agreement shows the desire of the two governments to consolidate the cordial relations to the field of economic, technical and cultural cooperation. He added that this area of international cooperation is especially relevant when we take into account that this is one of the first agreements which the Kingdom of Jordan has signed with a South American country.

Ambassador Wa'il al-Masri answered Rojas Galdames' speech by stating that by signing this agreement Chile and his country have consolidated ties in technology, science and economics.

TURBAY ON MARCH ELECTIONS, FOREIGN BASES

PA070420 Paris AFP in Spanish 0139 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Colombian President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala today offered to resign on 16 March if the opposition tickets win the legislative elections on 14 March. Turbay Ayala said that he will not wait until the end of his term on 7 August 1982 if the ticket which support democracy are defeated.

The president made the formal promise during a public rally which he presided over in Pasto, capital of Narino Province, on the border with Ecuador. He explained that if the opposition tickets win the 14 March legislative elections, he will consider his mission a failure.

"I will resign from the presidency on 16 March if the opposition tickets win the elections. I will not wait out the end of my term," Turbay Ayala said in an emotional tone of voice.

The president also guaranteed the Colombian people that the government will provide equal guarantees for all political parties and groups which participate in the elections. Today it was announced that in order to provide greater guarantees and to provide security for the voters, 3,000 policemen will reinforce the protective forces throughout the country.

Colombia will permit the installation of military bases in its territory if at any given moment an attack occurs against democracy from beyond the continent, said Turbay Ayala, but nevertheless discounted reports that his country would permit the installation of those bases under the present international circumstances. "If an attack occurs against democracy from beyond the continent, Colombia would not only lend its airports but would send troops to fight," Turbay said in Pasto. "We would do so in defense of the fatherland, of our solid democracy," the President explained, adding that he does not believe that the circumstances exist for a measure of that nature. This was the first time that Turbay Ayala has discussed the subject of the United States' alleged interest in obtaining facilities for the installation of military bases in Colombia and Honduras. Although the State Department in Washington said that some contacts had been made on the matter, Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said that these had not taken place.

Turbay Ayala did not confirm the possible contacts.

FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS RELATIONS WITH CUBA 'REMOTE'

PA060200 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Bogota -- the Colombian Government today said that the possibility of restoring relations with Cuba is remote. As long as the Cuban regime continues intervening in our country's internal affairs, there is no reason to reconsider the severing of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds said. Further on he added that the severing of relations with Cuba was not the fault of the Colombian Government, but of Cuba for sending trained guerrillas to our country. The day they can prove that they have stopped intervening, we will reconsider the situation. In the meantime, however, it is very difficult to resume relations with Cuba, considering the present circumstances, Foreign Minister Lemos Simmonds said. When asked if the government has new evidence that the Cuban regime is intervening in our country, Lemos Simmonds said that we are up against a situation that it is obvious to everyone. The Cuban regime is intervening in our countries. Subversion is not a local phenomenon; it is being directed from abroad and to think otherwise is naive, Lemos Simmonds said.

REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY DOMINICA'S EUGENIA CHARLES

Comments on Reagan Plan

PA030236 Paris AFP in Spanish 1937 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Bogota, 2 Mar (AFP) -- Eugenia Charles, prime minister of the Caribbean island of Dominica, has invited Caribbean and Central American countries to undertake development projects with the aid designated by U.S. President Ronad Reagan for this broad region.

The Dominican head of state held a 40-minute meeting today with Colombian Foreign Affairs Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds. She expressed her appreciation for the economic aid that will be given to Dominica within the Reagan plan and said that "We will use it for infrastructural programs."

Prime Minister Charles later condmened the arms race that is making headway in the region. "I did not agree with wasting those resources on military defense spending," she said. "That would be okay for some big developed South American countries, but not for Caribbean countries."

Mrs Charles began an official 3-day visit to Colombia last night; she will hold private meetings with 6 of liberal President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's 13 cabinet ministers. She expressed the hope that Reagan's aid "will permit us to attract foreign investment to Dominica."

"Such investment would allow us to create more jobs, improve our roads and airports, undertake hydroelectric projects and make use of our great geothermic potential," Mrs Charles told AFP newsmen.

The Dominican prime minister, known here as the "Iron Lady" of the Caribbean, condemned Cuban expansionism in the Caribbean and expressed concern about the influence Fidel Castro's regime has over the Island of Grenada.

She explained that she was not concerned about any country's political orientation but that she did not approve of a larger and more powerful state guiding and dominating poorer states.

Mrs Charles termed those groups that have repeatedly tried to invade Dominica "political criminals."

When questioned on what Dominica expected from Colombia, she said that "we need help in developing our agriculture and our foreign trade and in training our workers."

The Dominican prime minister later met with President Turbay Ayala at the Palace of Narino, where she had lunch and talked with the Colombian ministers of justice and education. On Wednesday, Mrs Charles will meet with the ministers of economic development and agriculture and livestock, as well as with the manager of the national federation of Colombian coffee growers.

She will return to Dominica on Thursday morning.

Departure Reported

PA051517 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1836 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Beogota, 4 Mar (LATIN-REUTER) -- Dominican Prime Minister Eugenia Charles has returned to her country today after meeting with Colombian authorities and President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala. The minister was seen off at Bogota's El Dorado Airport by Colombian Foreign Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds.

During her visit to Colombia, Charles spoke with governmental agricultural and industrial officials and said that her country is prepared to accept technological aid and products, such as cement and construction materials, from Colombia.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REJECTS POSSIBILITY OF BASES

PA050425 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 4 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] An international news agency has reported from Washington about the possible establishment of U.S. military bases in Latin America as a result of the Central American crisis. The Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry has issued the following communique. Ambassador (Jorge Ortiz), press chief of the Foreign Ministry, reads the communique:

[Begin recording] Regarding the press report from Washington regarding the reported interest in establishing U.S. bases in Latin America and the possibility that one of them might be located on the Galapagos Islands, Acting Foreign Minister Rodrigo Valdez, through me, emphatically states that a project of this nature would not have any support from the national government.

The minister adds that Ecuador is not and will not be willing to grant the use of the Galapagos Islands or any other part of the national territory for military bases of foreign powers. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT FAVORS HOLDING LINE ON OIL PRICES

PA041240 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Natural Resources Minister Eduardo Ortega Gomez said that the Ecuadorean Government is trying to have OPEC maintain the current oil prices and in the meantime reduce production. He said this in relation to rumors that OPEC will hold a special meeting prior to the one scheduled for May. Ortega Gomez explained that these two meetings have entirely different purposes and that the special meeting will not cause the cancellation of the meeting scheduled for May. He added that he does not know what Iran's position will be regarding the special meeting or if the OPEC president has made any contact in this respect. Let us listen to a statement which Minister Ortega Gomez made to Cadena Ecuador Radio:

[Begin recording] Look, one thing is the ordinary session to be held on 20 May in Quito and another is the meeting that some OPEC member-countries are trying to hold before the Quito meeting, probably before the second half of this month. The countries interested in having this meeting to discuss production costs have discussed the need to have the OPEC president make sure the necessary contacts with all the ministers of all the countries are made to make sure the meeting is a success. So far, I do not know if the Iranian minister has been contacted. The purpose of this special meeting is to discuss marketing problems at the international level. Whenever we have held meetings, the aspirations of most OPEC members have been met. Therefore, I trust that on this occasion we can reach another agreement which will satisfy the interests of all OPEC member-countries.

In our specific case, I believe that that current prices should be maintained and that production should be cut back as a way to maintain prices.

The Ecuadorean Government sells at prices established by OPEC and under conditions that prevail in the international market. Therefore, in no way can we alter these conditions. However, it would be a success for our country to maintain current prices. [end recording]

BRIEFS

OIL SALES DROP -- According to Central Bank statistics, oil sales have dropped drastically in comparison to last year. Oil exports dropped from $208 million in 1981 to $178 million in January 1982. This represents a 14.5 percent drop. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Feb 82 PA]

CASTANEDA SCHEDULES MEETINGS TO DISCUSS PEACE PLAN

PA052230 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1914 GMT 5 Mar 82

[By Antonio Ortega Avila]

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 5 Mar (EFE) -- The meeting between Mexican Secretary of Foreign Relations Jorge Castaneda and U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig will afford Mexico the opportunity to submit in detail its peace proposal for Central America. Haig and Castaneda will meet tomorrow in New York City and, according to the Mexican Foreign Relations Secretariat, the two "will review the Central American situation" in private.

It should be noted that this week the Mexican foreign relations secretary consulted with the Mexican ambassadors in the United States, Cuba and Nicaragua, although his office indicated the meetings were separate and had nothing to do with Castaneda's trip to New York. Unofficial reports in this capital revealed that secretary Castaneda may meet in New York with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to discuss President Lopez Portillo's plan. This information, however, has not been confirmed.

In Mexico it is believed that the diplomatic meetings provided the Mexican secretary with an updated and authoritative opinion on the response to Lopez Portillo's proposal by nations having their differences with the United States and by opposition groups within the United States. The other objective of Castaneda's trip, besides his meeting with Haig, is to make sure Mexico is properly represented at the last negotiating session of the conference on The Law of the Sea, to be held between 8 and 30 March at the UN headquarters.

Castaneda and Haig will meet again during the meeting of the so-called "Nassau Group" which will include the foreign ministers of Venezuela and Canada, Jose Alberto Zambrano and Mark MacGuigan. The "Nassau Group" will meet in New York on 14 and 15 March to analyze President Reagan's proposal of cooperation in the area's economic development. It is expected that the Lopez Portillo's plan will also be studied by the foreign ministers of Mexico, the United States, Canada and Venezuela during their meeting in New York, as well as any other cooperation formula for the area.

Haig Statement

PA060240 Paris AFP in Spanish 0139 GMT 6 Mar 82

[By Nelson Kieman]

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 5 Mar (AFP) -- U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's statement that guerrilla movements could break out in Mexico as a result of the existing conflicts in Central America has caused some concern in political circles of this capital. The daily EXCELSIOR in an editorial refers to a statement made by Haig yesterday to a U.S. newspaper, and pointed out that "we are not worried about the people rising up for their freedom . . . we are concerned about General Haig's interest in involving Mexico in the crisis, and his claim that U.S. interests in our country are being menaced." Haig's statement about possible outbreaks of violence in Mexico "seem to seek the involvement of our country in the already serious Central American crisis, subjecting it to serious direct and indirect pressures," EXCELSIOR added.

Mexico maintains a position quite far from that of the United States concerning the Central American conflicts, as it does not share the opinion that they are the product of "Marxist infiltration." The Mexican Government upholds the view that the problems of the area are the consequence of those countries underdevelopment and lack of economic opportunities.

Political circles indicated that Haig's statement was intended to change Mexico's foreign policy, which has supported Nicaragua, has had understanding and respect for the existence of Cuba and has criticized authoritarian regimes -- in order to bring it closer to the U.S. position.

Meeting With Haig

PA070402 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2248 GMT 6 Mar 82

[By Jose Sobrino]

[Excerpts] New York, 6 Mar (EFE) -- The chiefs of Mexican and U.S. foreign policy held an extensive and intense meeting today, which both described as "very useful and promising," to discuss in detail the Mexican president's proposal to decrease tensions in Central America and the Caribbean.

At a separate news conference held after the 2-hour meeting, Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda told journalists in reply to their questions that he conceded that a certain quantity of arms are being supplied to the Salvadoran rebels through Nicaragua, but he emphasized that this is small "at this time." Nevertheless, he pointed out that this does not mean that it was greater in the past or will again be in the future and that he had discussed the matter with Haig as part of the exchange, of the "give and take" of concessions so that the proposals will become acceptable for all parties.

Concerning what Haig told journalists, to the effect that he had asked the Mexican foreign secretary for the support of his government in the Salvadoran elections, Castaneda said that Mexico has always favored elections but that in this case it is not even known whether they can be held, how they will be held or what results they will have, if they have any. He said that Mexico is not planning to send observers to the elections in El Salvador and that many other countries of the hemisphere will not send any either. He said that in his opinion there must be negotiations and a prior agreement for the elections to be held with guarantees and the participation of everyone to make its results significant.

Castaneda described his meeting with Haig as "very useful and constructive." He said that he had explained to Haig "in detail" Mexican President Lopez Portillo's proposals, which were presented in general outline in his speech in Managua. He agreed with Haig in that they were in agreement on many aspects and that they disagreed on others, but that they decided to meet again at the end of next week after both parties had considered the pros and cons and the concessions required in every negotiation to reach solutions.

Both had to reply to insistent queries on the Nicaraguan youth who took asylum at the beginning of the month in the Mexican Embassy in El Salvador. Castaneda evaded the delicate matter, admitting that he had discussed this with Haig, by saying that he had no knowledge of the history of the Nicaraguan youth, to whom the Mexican charge d'affairs of the Mexican Embassy in Sal Salvador had granted asylum on 1 March and not on 3 or 4 March as had been reported, on the basis of what he said and an identity card from the University of Nuevo Leon which he used to identify himself.

Both Castaneda and Haig evaded questions on charges of Salvadoran rebel camps in Mexico. Castaneda said that he had no knowledge of their existence and that the policy of his government is to prevent the activities of foreign groups on Mexican soil. The general impression conveyed by both is that the Mexican mediation to decrease tensions in Central America and the Caribbean is going well, especially with respect to the bilateral relations between the United States and Nicaragua and the United States and Cuba, but that differences exist on a solution of El Salvador's internal situation, although neither party considers them insurmountable.

EL SALVADOR

FMLN, HAVANA RADIOS SPECULATE ON COUP PLOT

Duarte Visit to U.S.

PA061333 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] International media have announced that junta members Jose Napoleon Duarte arrived in the United States several hours ago on a secret mission, for the purpose of preparing a possible coup d'etat that would remove some of the members of the high command, including the heads of the security forces, from office. Furthermore, he would be preparing everything related to the assassination of General Garcia, obeying the plans of the U.S. State Department. Commander Joaquin Villalobos, in a special Radio Venceremos broadcast, denounced the Reagan administration's plans to murder Garcia and to bring about changes in the junta in an effort to improve its international image.

Havana's Coup Rumors

PA062226 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] The rumors of a coup in El Salvador have increased in recent hours, although they have been officially denied following the secret trip to Washington of a member of the Christian Democratic military junta. According to a FMLN source, Gen Jaime Abdul Gutierrez is heading the movement and the main reason is to oust Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia and other top officers from the armed forces high command.

The same source indicated that these officers are held responsible by the plotters for the failures that the regime has had against the guerrillas and also of the more than 30,000 political assassinations in El Salvador.

On the other hand, the independent press agency has reported that 106 officers, non-commissioned officers and soliders from the San Carlos garrison in San Salvador, in San Miguel and from the Ilopango air base, were arrested during the last week of February for refusing to fight. On the other hand, the rumors of a coup are circulating based on the secret meeting that junta member Jaime Abdul Gutierrez held with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. Other sources reported that Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the Salvadoran junta, left for the United States on an urgent secret mission.

DEFENSE MINISTER DENIES ALLEGED ARMY PLOT

PA062114 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 6 Mar 82 p 12

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia denied the existence of a plot within the armed forces to oust him from his post. He said that this is another lie spread by clandestine radio stations and that it even gave names of allegedly involved officers.

Minister Garcia spoke to foreign and local newsmen yesterday at noon and when asked about the alleged plot and the names of the plotters, he replied, "Give me the name of a single officer of the ones allegedly involved."

The correspondent then mentioned Col Rafael Flores Lima, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, who was accompanying the minister at the moment. Garcia lifted a hand and putting his arm on Colonel Lima's shoulders he said "Here is Colonel Lima. We have been friends for many years. I respect and admire him greatly and I am sure that he has a high esteem for loyalty, friendship and our joint task in the nation's defense. All this is a falsehood." Colonel Flores Lima blushed at the praise and only said "Thank you general."

General Garcia also denied the report that a dynamite charge had been discovered in his office, as part of the plot mentioned by the clandestine radio.

"This is the result of another kind of subversive and terrorist activity trying to create distrust and division among the armed forces and the Salvadoran people," he said, emphasizing that this cannot happen because the armed forces officer corps is very united in the task of defending national interests and because it is an institution with solid principles. Defense Deputy Secretary Col Francisco Adolfo Castillo also accompanied General Garcia and Colonel Flores Lima.

Meanwhile, Colonel Flores Lima denied that during his visit to Argentina, he had visited weapons and ammunition factories, or that the Salvadoran Government plans to purchase these war materials. "It is not true," he replied to a correspondent's question and added that his visit was for another purpose. He said it was true that the Argentine Government had offered all kinds of assistance to El Salvador.

OFFICER TERMS GUAZAPA OPERATION 'SUCCESSFUL'

PA061534 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 4 Mar 82 pp 1, 20

[Excerpts] The army has successfully completed its operation on Guazapa hill, according to Col Edmundo Palacios, commander of the 1st Artillery Brigade, who spoke at a news conference. The Guazapa hill operation began on 2[illegible] February and lasted until 2 March. By the morning of that day, only administrative duties had to be carried out and the troops were replaced by fresh units, whose only orders were to hold their positions.

According to Colonel Palacios, one of the objectives of the military operation was to gain control of the position where the rebels had supposedly regrouped, primarily on the northeast side of Guazapa hill. We also wanted to cut off the enemy's supply line; we did this by encircling their position, so that they could not even obtain water, Colonel Palacios pointed out. When we captured some rebels on the east side of the hill -- they were dying of thirst; they had not had a drop of water, Colonel Palacios told the newsmen.

During the heavy fighting that took place over 5 or 6 days, the rebels desperately tried to break through our lines but could not, Colonel Palacios indicated.

This is the ninth operation carried out on Guazapa hill and one of the most important, Colonel Palacios explained. In January 1981, he added, we discovered that the guerrilla high command was meeting on Guazapa hill. We also learned that the terrorists were receiving special training in communications, explosives and sharpshooting here and that a political school had been functioning here for more than 5 years, in which ALAS [no expansion given] priests indoctrinated the subversives; this school was now run by the United Popular Action Front, FAPU, and the National Resistance, RN.

Colonel Palacios added that at least 126 subversives' bodies were found after the operation. In addition, several individual graves were found, as well as a common grave containing a great number of bodies. Army units also found a radio repeater with its accessories, including an antenna, all of which had been destroyed. It is not known whether the destruction was caused by the fire and bombs or whether the guerrillas dismantled the equipment themselves. It is believed that this was the repeater for a clandestine station.

The colonel said that 24 soldiers were killed and 32 injured. He noted that the number of enemy casualties may increase, because four other bodies and many other graves were found in El Carrizal. He is sure that between 70 and 80 percent of the rebels were killed, since the entire area was occupied and very few guerrilas were able to escape.

The sites of the most intense fighting were Palo Grande, El Cumbo and La Preta, in the north. However, the army combed the entire sector, from Tres Ceibas canton north of Guazapa to San Jose Guayabal, and is still "mopping up," Colonel Palacios said.

The 1st Brigade commander said that it is quite certain that orders were issued from that area to guerrilla groups operating in the central and paracentral area, under the control of the RN, whose camps were destroyed.

In addition, the colonel reported that recovered war materiel was insignificant. He showed newsmen the items, mostly grenades of the so-called "Opas" type and Claymore mines. "We have had an impact on the terrorist groups," Palacios said. He added that it will certainly take them some time to reorganize and regroup. He added that terrorist actions will therefore decrease considerably in the next few days. Moreover, the terrorists were reportedly planning to stage a second offense on the hill before the elections. "We have certainly put a stop to that," the colonel concluded.

OFFICIAL STRESSES SUCCESS OF AGRARIAN REFORM

PA071550 Paris AFP in Spanish 2332 GMT 6 Mar 82

[By Jose Maria Riba]

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Col Galileo Torres, agriculture under secretary, said today at the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation that the agrarian reform has "benefitted 35,000 Salvadoran families, integrated in 329 cooperatives." Colonel Torres, who is responsible for the implementation of the agrarian reform, stressed that [words indistinct] equivalent to 270,000 hectares are annually worked in the cooperative system.

During the ceremony today commemorating the second anniversary of the agrarian reform in San Salvador, Colonel Torres pointed out that the amount of cultivated land has been "significantly" increasing. He said that cotton was planted in 32,000 hectares in 1979, 36,500 hectares in 1981 and it is estimated that in 1982 the figure will be 47,000 hectares. Land planted with sugarcane increased by 7,900 hectares between 1979 and 1981, Torres cited as an example of the success of the 1979 and 1981 emergency plans and the 3-year plan implemented by the government junta in 1981.

Colonel Torres admitted there have been defects and problems in the implementation of the agrarian reform, indicating that they are "logical in a dynamic process." "We are at war," the ministerial official said. In his speech to about 300 leaders of cooperatives, he expressed thanks to the efforts carried out by the peasants. Colonel Torres also stressed that "despite a difficult political situation," El Salvador has been able to continue exporting coffee, cotton and sugar.

MAJOR D'AUBUISSON COMMENTS ON ELECTION SITUATION

PA062304 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 6 Mar 82 pp 5, 17

[Excerpts] "We do not expect a boycott during the 28 March elections, but if this does happen, our country will sink completely," Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson said yesterday. Yesterday afternoon, he held a brief news conference to emphasize his fighting spirit in the electoral process. The Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA] leader appeared in public for the first time since an attack against him on Saturday. D'Aubuisson had his right arm in a sling as a result of the attack in which he was shot in the back in his shoulderblade.

"Where there is smoke there is fire," he said, referring to rumors that the elections would be boycotted. "If elections are not held, the Marxist-Leninists will benefit. The rumors show that there is something in the air; something is being planned. The people, however, are aware that elections are the only solution to save our country. We will do everything possible to keep this boycott from happening," he added.

When asked if ARENA will triumph in the assembly elections, he replied; "I believe that no party will have a great advantage in the voting, but there are other nationalists and true patriots who will form the constituent assembly. These deputies will be from our party and from others striving for democracy and the return of peace to our country."

D'Aubuisson also referred to the attack against him and said that "The FMLN says tha they ambushed us as we arrived at San Sebastian on Saturday. Our vehicles and helicopters arrived at this town half an hour before the meeting and a hostile atmosphere was evident. Therefore, I did not attempt to go there so they knew I would not attend."

He said that "The FMLN did not commit the attack, it was made by other persons. I have evidence that I will present shortly to the Salvadorans so that they will know the truth. My brothers from the National Guard were attacked between Santo Domingo and San Sebastian."

Major d'Aubuisson also emphasized that "republican and nationalist men from ARENA are determined to save our country. We represent the truth and shall always represent the truth. No one will stop us in our struggle to save El Salvador from totalitarian communism because we are free men and will fight for freedom and peace."

FMLN COMMENTS ON COUP RUMORS, MILITARY SITUATION

PA071940 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Statement issued by the FMLN Press Secretariat in El Salvador on 6 March]

[Text] The FMLN Press Secretariat reports the following to the Salvadoran people and the world:

Regarding the recently uncovered plot that is being developed by Gen Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, Col Rafael Flores Lima and Col (Domingo Monterrosa) against the fascist high command, we state that the FMLN emphatically rejects all coups d'etat of any type because the FMLN believes that a coup would be a military solution that would hinder the many attempts to promote a political solution that our front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] have publicly proposed before world public opinion in order to achieve a negotiated peace that will end the bloody genocidal war that the fascist high command and the Salvadoran Army with the unlimited aid of the U.S. administration are waging against our people.

The FMLN believes that any coup d'etat would try to cover up and deliberately sidestep the necessary purge of the armed forces. It would only bring more suffering and sorrow for our heroic people, worsening tensions in the Central American region and thus threatening peace.

On the basis of our influence among the people and our capacity that has been broadly shown in the political and military struggle against a savage dictatorship that has oppressed the Salvadoran people for more than 50 years, the FMLN reiterates its decision to continue its struggle and stresses that there can be no real solution to the country's serious crisis without our participation, as is shown by the support of the people and the great solidarity expressed by the majority of the democratic governments of the world that have recognized the FMLN and the FDR as the forces that represent the interests of the Salvadoran people.

The desperate coup attempts show the serious contradictions within the armed forces and the entire regime. While President Jose Napoleon Duarte makes a private visit to the United States, the CIA carries out attempts against D'Aubuisson and General Garcia; against D'Aubuisson because he is a fanatic who has been the main exponent in the electoral campaign of the political project of the fascist sector the oligarchy -- whose possibly victory, in the event that the elections are held, would cancel the plan for changes proposed by the U.S. administration in its efforts to give a new face to the dictatorship. D'Aubuisson's crimes are many.

Among them is the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Arnuflo Romero, and more recently that of (Rafael Rodriguez Gonzalez), leader of the National Conciliation Party, PCN.

The attempts to assassinate General Garcia are based on his clear inability to militarily annihilate our forces, to politically [word indistinct] the armed forces and because he is implicated too much in the genocide and crimes against the people. As a result, he cannot be presented before the world public as a reliable [word indistinct] to fulfill the plan to legitimize the regime.

Contradictions have emerged in the United States as a result of the internal conflicts in the top levels of power. The general who comprise the high command of the U.S. Army have decided for the time being not to order the invasion of El Salvador if President Reagan does not guarantee them a majority in Congress that will support this option, since they would have to pay a high political price if they have to order the withdrawal of the invading troops at the end of the 60-day term that U.S. laws have established for the U.S. Congress to ratify such an operation.

The bitter dispute between Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger is currently centering around Weinberger's position, which states that a U.S. invasion of Central America at this time -- with the current world balance of forces against such an invasion -- would only weaken and endanger the installation of the U.S. strategic nuclear weapons in Europe.

The military situation in the interior of the country has become extremely critical for the Salvadoran Army and the fascist high command. According to the latest reports, internal sources of the government's army have admitted that in its unsuccessful operation against the FMLN forces in Guazapa, it suffered no less than 180 casualties, including dead. Of these, 124 were elite troops of the Atlacatl Brigade. It has also been reported that, in eastern El Salvador, the troops of the junta's army have begun to build fortifications in the cities of Gotera and Usulutan and to a lesser extent in San Miguel in preparation for possible attacks from our forces in that area of the country.

Nevertheless, despite all its weaknesses, the military-Christian Democratic junta and the fascist high command are concentrating troops to launch a new criminal offensive against the civilian population of the area in their efforts to dislodge us from our positions on heroic Guazapa mountain. They have the disadvantage of the low morale of the government soldiers because of the defeat that our forces inflicted on the two battalions that carried out the 10-day operation against Guazapa with well-known results. United to fight until the final victory! Revolution or death we will win!

RADIO FARABUNDO MARTI STOPS TRANSMISSION

PA070147 [Editorial Report] After playing the Farabundo Marti theme song and giving its station identification, the Clandestine Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador at 0100 GMT on 7 March carried the following message: "Your attention please: We are reporting to the heroic people of El Salvador that Radio Farabundo Marti's rebel signal of the FMLN will be off the air for improvement projects and the reinstallation of our equipment. We are asking all our people to be on the alert for when we resume our transmissions.

"Revolution or death; the armed people will win. United to fight until the final victory. Revolution or death; we will win." The station repeated the theme song twice and the message on the station going off the air and at 0117 GMT on 7 March it stopped transmitting and went off the air.

GUATEMALA

GENERAL GUEVARA LEADS IN PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

NC080815 Paris AFP in English 0752 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 8 March (AFP) -- General Anibal Guevara, the regime-backed presidential candidate, took a wide lead in the first election returns from provincial districts, according to an announcement early today on yesterday's balloting.

At 1 am (0700 GMT), General Guevara had polled 2,286 votes. The anticommunist National Liberation Front leader, Mario Sandoval Alarcon, had 1,603 votes, while Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre, head of the Center-Left Coalition, had 1,363 and rightist Gustavo Anzueto, leader of the so-called Authentic Nationalist Center Party, had 656 votes.

But in fragmentary results from Guatemala City itself, Mr Maldonado led General Guevara by 858 votes to 601. Informal opinion polls carried out by Guatemalan opinion polls said earlier that Maldonado would indeed defeat General Guevara in the capital. But General Guevara said he was "very confident" of his final victory.

The counting was to continue all night, and analysts estimated that a winner would not be known until later today. But the initial returns appeared to hold two surprises: First, that turnout might exceed 50 percent, at least 10 percentage points more than had been estimated, and second, that the leftist guerrillas were relatively inactive during yesterday's voting. The rebels had refused to participate in the elections, called them a "farce," and warned Guatemalans against going to the polls.

On the eve of the voting, the Guatemalan Workers Party (communist) kidnapped the editor of one of Guatemala City's leading newspapers, Alvaro Contreras Velez, and demanded the publication of a statement denouncing the election.

On election day, police and army patrols ensured a tense calm throughout most of the country until the polls closed at 6 pm local time. But there were complaints of electoral fraud and reports of some bloody incidents.

In the capital, three guerrillas armed with pistols and sticks of dynamite were killed after they attacked a voting booth. Four voters waiting in line at another polling station were wounded when a soldier accidentally triggered his submachinegun. Bombs and landmines exploded at a number of places in the mountainous interior.

Guerrillas reportedly set fire to some town halls, burned ballot boxes, and cut traffic on the Pan-American Highway and other roads by felling trees to form barricades.

ROUNDUP OF ELECTIONS STATUS, GUERRILLA ACTIONS

PA070349 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0136 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala, 7 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Guerrilla activities and the dead have played a key role in today's elections in Guatemala, but the politicians are pleased with the number of voters at the polls. After 1800, the time foreseen for the closing of the polls, it was impossible to begin the vote-counting process in several parts of the capital because many people were still lining up at the polls. According to Guatemala's electoral law, the polls will close at 1800 as long as there are no people waiting to vote; if there are, voting can go on until midnight.

Guatemalan politicians, from President Fernando Romeo Lucas to the candidates running to succeed him, have expressed their satisfaction at the large turnout of voters in the capital. No reports are yet available on the overall turnout at the polls or the possible abstention rate in the interior (where a 60 percent abstention rate was estimated).

The guerrilla organizations, which played a key role today, represent a new element in the Guatemalan elections. In this capital, three guerrilla elements armed with submachineguns and dynamite were shot to death by a police patrol that caught them as they were preparing to stage an attack. Three people were shot and injured in one of the capital city's polls when a soldier accidentally fired his submachinegun.

In Texisco, on the Pacific coast, a guerrilla group stormed the polls, picked up the ballots and burned them. Bus service in the interior is almost nonexistent and many companies and cooperatives have announced that they will not resume service until Tuesday.

Land communications with the northwestern part of Guatemala, where the strife-torn Quiche and Huehuetenango Provinces are located, is completely disrupted. In Chisec, the leftists entered the town, dynamited the municipality and killed four people.

In the southern city of Santa Rosa, four members of the anticommunist National Liberation Movement were killed by guerrilla elements. In Sacualpa, Quiche, an armed clash took place between the armed forces and guerrillas. No information is yet available on the results of this action.

The asphalt road to Huehuetenango is obstructed because guerrilla elements have dynamited it in several places. In San Marcos Province, the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Organization threatened to kill bus drivers and burn their vehicles if they took voters to the polls.

In Chicacao, guerrilla elements sought to sabotage the voting, but the army defended the polling stations and forced the revolutionaries to flee.

The Guatemalan guerrilla organizations describe the electoral process as a "farce against the people." They also accuse all four candidates of being unable to defend the people's interests if they win. The four candidates are the anticommunist Mario Sandoval, nationalist Gustavo Anzueto, official candidate Gen Angel Anibal Guevara and center-left opposition candidate Alejandro Maldonado.

Electoral registry president (Walter del Valle) expects to have some unofficial results that might suggest the winner some time in the early morning hours. For his part, President Gen Fernando Romed Lucas has said that he will not permit a fraud, that the vote-counting process will be clean and that power will be turned over on 1 July to whomever wins at the polls.

Later Election Figures

PA080407 Paris AFP in Spanish 0346 GMT 8 Mar 82

[Text] Guatemala City, 7 Mar (AFP) -- The official candidate in the Guatemalan presidential elections had a substantial advantage over his three contenders in the count of the first 13 of 3,000 voting polls throughout the country. The polls counted were from the interior of the republic. Anticommunist candidate Mario Sandoval was in second place, followed by Alejandro Maldonado of the center-left.

The partial results are: Anibal Guevara, 855; Sandoval Alarcon, 363; Alejandro Maldonado, 266; and Gustavo Anzueto, 202. However, opinion polls conducted by Guatemalan television in the capital city indicate that opposition candidate Alejandro Maldonado will will win in the capital, although not by as large a margin as expected.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT STUDIES U.S. BID FOR MILITARY BASES

PA060020 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2123 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 5 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government confirmed today the existence of a request by the United States for the expansion of several airstrips to be used by the U.S. Air Force in case of an emergency. Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova learned about the U.S. petition yesterday during a meeting with the chief of the armed forces, Col Gustavo Alvarez Martinez; and the chief of staff.

Presidential Office Secretary Carlos Flores Facusse said the U.S. proposal is being analyzed by the executive branch and is earmarked within the U.S. assistance plans for Honduras. The president of the Honduran National Congress, Efrain Bu Giron, said that it is the function of the legislative branch to authorize the construction of a U.S. military base in Honduras. He particularly favored the existence of the base if it will "contribute to the defense of democracy and freedom in the Western Hemisphere."

Foreign Affairs Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica explained that the base would be established through a bilateral Honduran-U.S. agreement approved by the Honduran Congress and would respect national sovereignty. Meanwhile, sectors of the Honduran leftwing have voiced their opposition to the U.S. military base and have pointed out that "the United States wants to supply the weapons while Honduras supplies the dead in case of an international armed conflict."

Those same sectors have noted that Honduras would immediately become a military objective if it allowed a U.S. military base on its territory. Nicaraguan ambassador in Tegucigalpa, Guillermo Suarez Rivas, also expressed his objection in that respect; he said that "a U.S. military base in Honduras does not contribute to Central American pacification or to the detente observed between his country and Honduras in recent months."

Party Leader Opposes Bases

PA060242 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 4 Mar 82 p 31

[Excerpt] The Honduran Christian Democratic Party [PDCH] will not allow Honduran sovereignty to be tarnished through the installation of a military base in the national territory, whether of the United States or of any other power trying to make Central America an extension of its hegemony, PDCH President Dr Hernan Corrales Padilla said yesterday. Dr Corrales Padilla also pointed out that the mere idea of setting up a military base is a repetition of "the old and painful history of those small, underdeveloped countries in which the great powers seek to strengthen their power."

He said that "interventionism, which is part of the strategy of these powers, and a military base in any one of the Central American nations would aggravate to painfully dangerous levels the already critical situation prevailing in the region."

NICARAGUA

WHEELOCK DECRIES HAIG REFUSAL OF MEETING

PA060111 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] Those who reject dialogue and do not want peace are once again evident. Alexander Haig has cancelled an already scheduled meeting with Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock. Here is a report from Washington. The U.S. department frequently receives counterrevolutionaries such as Fernando Chamorro Rapaccíolli and Steadman Fagoth Mueller, but it has repeatedly refused to receive representatives of the Nicaraguan Government who are bringing very serious proposals, Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman said in the U.S. capital yesterday.

In a statement to AFP, Nicaraguan Ambassador to Washington Francisco Fiallos said that a meeting between Commander Wheelock and Secretary of State Alexander Haig had been arranged and subsequently cancelled by the State Department. Wheelock, who is agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, said that he was bearer of a five-point peace proposal that has the support of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, COPPPAL.

Commander Wheelock summarized the five points of the proposal to the national and international news media. They are as follows: Nicaragua commits itself to nonaligned policy; the signing of nonaggression and mutual security agreements with neighboring countries on the basis of the principle of nonintervention; joint patrols of the northern and southern borders to prevent the activity of counterrevolutionary bands; Nicaragua reiterates its desire to maintain friendly relations with the United States; and absolute respect for the sovereignty of Nicaragua which maintains its decision to promote a mixed economy, political pluralism and the holding of elections in 1985.

Alexander Haig's refusal to meet the member of the National Directorate of the FSLN and to listen to the peace proposal has been interpreted as a new sign of a U.S. policy of aggression.

ALLEGED PLANS FOR SOMOZIST ATTACK REPORTED

PA061717 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica -- Honduran mass organizations charged today that Somozist groups in Honduras and the United States are preparing a large-scale armed attack on Nicaragua. These statements were made at a press conference at the National Autonomous University of Honduras auditorium, monitored here from broadcasts carried by that country's radio stations.

The Honduran Council for Peace and Friendship with Nicaragua, the Honduran Press Association and other organizations said that the attack would be launched at different points but that the major thrust would be concentrated on the Atlantic coast. They said that the purpose of this attack would be to take control of Zelaya Department, for use as a beach-head. They would then be able to obtain recognition from some governments.

The representatives of these organizations said that former Somozo guardsmen living in Honduras, members of a group led by the counterrevolutionary Steadman Fagoth Mueller and Somozists living in Miami would participate in this planned action. The representatives warned that the counterrevolutionaries living in the United States would try to take Puerto Cabezas and Bluefields, the most important ports on the Nicagaruan Atlantic coast. They added that diversionary attacks at the Honduran-Nicaraguan border would facilitate the operations in northern Zelaya from (Guisayare) to Cabo Viejo.

It was added that the weapons and other war material that are now stashed in Puerto Lempira, Gracias a Dios Department, were taken there in 18 Honduran Air Force flights. The representatives charged that on Sunday, 21 February, a private airplane belonging to the U.S. Embassy in Honduras landed in Puerto Lempira with five U.S. advisers. They added that on 29 February, Col Juan Lopez Grijalba, chief of Honduran Military Intelligence, met with all of the counterrevolutionary leaders who are preparing the armed attacks against Nicaragua.

The Honduran mass representatives mentioned the existence of several counterrevolutionary training camps and said that there are 3,000 men in one of them, at a place known as (Procoquira); 300 men are being trained atop (Las Ventanitas) hill; 400 Somozist are training at the (Casamolla) mine; and 450 more are being trained near the Pan-American Highway.

The presence of U.S. and Argentine instructors in these training camps was mentioned at the Tegucigalpa press conference. It was said tht Captain (Santos Barahoma) of Honduran Military Intelligence in Choluteca Department and Lt (Santos Nunez), chief of the 11th Battalion border guards, visit these foreign instructors. One of the Argentine instructors was identified as (Santiago Villegas). He is staying at the Honduras Maya Hotel.

Invasion Threat Condemned

PA071720 Paris AFP in Spanish 2245 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 6 Mar (AFP) -- Leaders of the principal Nicaraguan opposition parties condemned today in Managua any attack on the country, following a charge from Honduras that thousands of former Somozist guardsmen and Miskito Indians would launch an invasion against Nicaragua on 7 March from Honduran and U.S. territory. The Sandinist government must ask the Honduran Government to investigate the charge about a possible invasion on 7 March against Nicaragua, opposition leader Anibal Arana stated.

Adan Fletes, president of the Social Christian Party, said he doubted that such an attack will occur; nonetheless, he added that if such an invasion were to occur, it would not have any internal backing.

Anibal Arana, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN), said that "the peoples will know how to [word indistinct] to defend the national sovereignty, integrity of our territory and our self-determination." He added that the Nicaraguan Government should ask the Honduran Government to undertake an immediate investigation of the serious charge made.

Arana added that the Sandinist government should strive to consolidate peace in the country, opening the way to civilian elections that will guarantee true pluralism.

Various communications media polled leaders of student and labor organizations, many of whom stated that "the Nicaraguans are on a struggle footing to defend the achievements of the revolution."

Meanwhile, the authorities continued to maintain prudent silence on the measures to be adopted as a result of the charges of an invasion, attributed to student and labor organizations of Honduras. According to such charges, various contingents of former Somozist guardsmen and Miskito Indians are reportedly ready to launch an invasion against Nicaraguan territory on 7 March from various parts of Honduras in coordination with other groups reportedly arriving from Miami, in the United States, who will reach the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast by boat.

INVASION THREAT PROMPTS SUSPENSION OF BILL DEBATE

PA071105 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1634 GMT 7 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Managua, 7 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan State Council agreed this weekend to suspend all public and private discussion of the draft bill on political parties of Nicaragua.

An official communique by the council published today states that "in view of a possible military aggression by imperialism against Nicaragua, the immediate task of this country must be a strengthening of the fatherland's defense." The communique adds that in this manner they are coming out against "the diversionist maneuvers of sectors opposed to the revolution, who are discussing the bill in order to distract the people's attention from the immediate dangers hovering over us."

CENSUS POSTPONED DUE TO NATIONAL DEFENSE

PA060300 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] At the last minute the government has decided to postpone the population and housing census.

Only a few hours after the government had asked the support of all newsmen for the national population and housing census, it has now announced that there will be no census because everything is directed at the defense of the revolution. According to the government communique, it has decided to postpone the census until next year in view of the current situation of the Central American countries and the attacks that the reactionary forces are carrying out as part of the plans of aggression against Nicaragua. Through the census, the government was planning to gather all the necessary information to draft its future development policies for the social, economic and other sectors.

SOCIALISTS DIFFER OVER SANDINIST REVOLUTION

PM071259 Paris LE MONDE in French 28 Feb-1 Mar 82 p 3

[Unattributed report: "European and Latin American Socialists Differ in Assessment of Nicaraguan Revolution"]

[Text] The visit to Latin America by French Socialist leader Lionel Jospin and Spanish Socialist leader Felipe Gonzalez has not changed the critical assessment which the social democrats in the region make of the Sandinist revolution, it is noted in Caracas.

In theory, Mr Jospin and Mr Gonzalez were in Venezuela to attend the Socialist International leaders' conference on 24 and 25 February. That meeting, which had already been postponed until mid-February was cancelled owing to different assessments of the situation in Nicaragua by the European and Latin American parties in the international.

However the French and Spanish Socialist Parties' leaders had contacts in Caracas and then in Panama with the Latin American leaders. The interlocutors agreed to give the international's support to the "original plan" of the Nicaraguan revolution, based, according to the social democrats in the region, on the concepts of political pluralism, a mixed economy and nonalignment.

Have the Managua government and the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] deviated from that line or not? The Europeans and Latin Americans differ on the answer which should be given to that question.

The Europeans think that Managua should not be deprived of the Socialist International's support because that could encourage U.S. destabilization or intervention attempts. In exchange, it is necessary to prevent Nicaragua from joining the Soviet bloc -- which would strengthen the argument that the conflicts in the region are part of East-West confrontation.

Nonetheless the social democrats in the region, like the National Liberation Party in Costa Rica and Democratic Action in Venezuela -- which had rejected the presence of a Sandinist delegation at the Caracas meeting -- tend to have reservations because of domestic political requirements about a regime they regard as Marxist because of their domestic political requirements.

"It is easy for the Europeans to display revolutionary ideas on the situation in Africa and South America," Mr Humberto Celli, deputy secretary general of the Venezeuelan Democratic Action, told the Netherlands Socialist Party representative Maarten van Traa, who was also in Caracas, on Friday 26 February. Van Traa, who is responsible for international relations, had insinuated that Democratic Action and the National Liberation Party were moving away from Managua under U.S. influence.

Celli added that his party had asked the Sandinist junta to return to its original revolutionary plan. For, he said, "some attitudes" adopted by the FSLN could give an "undemocratic" turn to the revolution of 19 July 1979.

GRANMA ISSUES EDITORIAL ON REAGAN'S CARIBBEAN PLAN

FL041500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text of 4 March GRANMA editorial, part two, titled "An Initiative To Make the Rich Richer and the Poor Poorer," regarding the speech by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to the OAS]

[Text] Since the days of the electoral campaign which brought Ronald Reagan to the U.S. Presidency with the votes of only 26.7 percent of the electorate, the basic line which the government was going to follow regarding economic relations with the so-called Third World has been defined. Starting with the insane objective of imposing by force a U.S. hegemony which has already been historically cancelled, Reagan proposes for the underdeveloped countries an alleged model of development, whose principal ingredients are the spontaneous and unrestricted action of private capital; an absolute opening for the transnational monopolistic consortiums; the operation of a so-called free market, whose magic is capable of bringing about economic development; and an imitation of the U.S. economic development process under conditions which make it incapable of being repeated. Quite simply, it is prescribing to the Third World additional doses of the toxicant which has plunged it and maintains it in a state of underdevelopment.

Its opposition to development aid for the underdeveloped countries was crudely expressed with imperialistic brutality in the 1980 electoral platform of Reagan's party. The foreign economic aid which the United States provides is not a charitable enterprise. Charity is carried out more effectively by private organizations. It has been well proven that only through private economic development of the peoples in the backward nations can poverty be overcome. U.S. economic aid could act as a catalyst of the domestic development process, but it should only be given in those cases in which it is consistent with the U.S. foreign political interests. The 1980 electoral platform of the Republican Party concludes with a definition: U.S. foreign aid should be a means for exporting U.S. ideology.

All these ideas are contained in the so-called Caribbean Basin initiative, the new imperialist plan announced by Reagan within the suitable framework of the discredited OAS. Briefly, its objectives are clear; first of all, to try to stop the revolutionary process in Central America and the Caribbean; to open a wider field of action for the U.S. transnationals in the area; to integrate the economies of the area's countries to the U.S. economy as minor subordinates, and to try to extend the Puerto Rican colonial economic model through an illusory transformation of Central America and the Caribbean into a colonial economic area which will act as an extension and appendix of the U.S. economy.

Let us analyze this new imperialist panacea by what it says, and even more by what it does not say. The proposal that seems to have the most publicity impact is the establishment of a free trade zone based on access to the U.S. market without paying tariffs for 12 years on the products of the Central American Basin, the Caribbean islands, Guyana and Suriname. This proposal, which is supposedly bold and is decorated with the invocation of free trade, must be dissected to find its real meaning and extent. In the first place, it is a well known fact that the main trade barriers used by the developed capitalist countries in modern trade are not the tariff barriers. Although customs tariffs as an instrument of trade policy do maintain a reduced operation, they have ceded first place as an efficient manner of discriminating and as an exclusion mechanism to the so-called nontariff barriers which include hundreds of measures from administrative regulations, deliberately complicated, to exaggerated sanitary regulations.

These nontariff barriers are the ones which the underdeveloped countries demand with greater emphasis to be eliminated. Mr Reagan's splendid initiative does not mention them. They are a reserve weapon in the hands of the U.S. Government, to be used at any moment. This raises the question of how free is the free market zone?

However, this is not all. There is also a safeguard clause, another of the usual practices to block exports from the underdeveloped countries, which leaves in the hands of the U.S. Government and to its discretion the elimination or decrease of the trade volumes exported by the basin's countries, when Mr Reagan and his advisers decide that those products harm the economic interests of U.S. producers. In a few words, when the U.S. Government decides it, any exporter may be excluded from the market. This is a strange freedom of trade when only the U.S. Government is free to discriminate, block and blackmail when it wants to.

Sugar, an important export of several countries of the Caribbean Basin, such as the Dominican Republic, Barbados and others, is subjected to a certain limit, which is not specified, for its entry to the U.S. market without paying duties. The authority to limit the entry of sugar, protecting the inefficient U.S. producers, remain in the hands of the Yankee secretary of agriculture. This is also an extraordinary manner of understanding freedom of trade and the so-called magic of the market, which to Reagan seems to consist in the competition of the market, but only when the Yankee products have the advantage.

However, there is more. The concession of the right to enter the U.S. market is strictly on a bilateral basis, through negotiations country by country. As is to be expected, here are deployed the best imperialist arts of making conditions and of coercion.

Reagan himself said to the OAS: Before granting free tariff treatment we will analyze with every country their measures of self-help. What are these measures of self-help? Reagan did not say in his speech, which of course was not worthy of even one interruption for applause, despite the relatively friendly framework of the OAS. However, the document explaining the so-called initiative, distributed by the U.S. Government when the speech was being made, explains them. They are the reasons why a country can be excluded from the alleged benefits of the initiative. They are clauses establishing true conditions, which are very understandable in a project described by Reagan as a program which will create conditions in which private enterprise and self-help will flourish. The conditions are the exclusion of communist countries, of countries which expropriate U.S. interests without a prompt, adequate and effective compensation, countries which do not have a favorable attitude toward private enterprise or which discriminate against U.S. exports. That is to say, the exclusion of all that contravenes the bellicose, anti-communist, antipopular and reactionary designs of the fascist nucleus installed in the U.S. Government.

With all this, as can be seen, freedom of trade becomes a caricature. However, this freedom of trade can be considered from another angle which leads to interesting observations. The so-called Caribbean Basin exports primarily basic products, food and raw materials to the developed capitalist countries' markets. These products -- coffee, sugar, bananas, cotton, cacao and bauxite -- are subjected to unfavorable tendencies in the deterioration of their prices for several reasons, among which one of the most important ones is the impressive degree of control exercised by the transnational companies over their marketing. Basically, the big U.S. transational companies control the marketing of these products.

The power over marketing also implies a power of decision over the fixing of prices, by means of the monopolistic manipulation of the markets. In effect, UNCTAD calculated that in 1976 -- and there are no reasons to believe that the situation has changed today -- the percentage marketed by transnationals reached 85 to 90 percent of coffee, 60 percent of sugar, between 70-75 percent of bananas, 85 percent of cacao, between 85-90 percent of cotton, and between 90-95 percent of bauxite.

Under these conditions, it is easy to understand why the magic of the market, operating freely and fixing free prices, brings ironic smiles to the faces of even non-Marxist economists who are aware of the economic realities of the present world.

Therefore, it is also easy to understand the welcome which the U.S. transnationals, which dominate the marketing of these products, have given the free entry without tariffs to the U.S. market. For them the monopolistic control of the market, the fixing of prices in terms of their interests, and the lion's share in the distribution of export income with the producing country remain in force. In face of the overwhelming domination of the Yankee transnationals of the production, and many times with even greater strength of the marketing of export products, the free entry without tariffs reveals itself to be a formula which in no way affects the control of the transnationals but instead helps to increase even more their profits without changing the basic structure of relations between imperialism and the underdeveloped countries, which is the substratum of poverty and backwardness.

One should not forget also that the Caribbean Basin has, besides considerable natural resources, a cheap labor force and a geographic proximity to the U.S. market. These conditions are very convenient for trying to develop in the area the process of the so-called industrial redeployment which briefly consists of transferring to underdeveloped countries certain industries whose stay in the United States is not desirable -- whether because of the overaccumulation of capital due to the crisis affecting that economy; a reduction of the profit rate due to the increase in costs, especially the wage costs; or, in some cases, because of the intense contamination characteristic of their process. This industrial redeployment, which already has some examples in the Caribbean and Central America, establishes some industries as subsidiaries of transnational head offices located in the United States, and they integrate not with the economy of the receiving country, but with the strategy and needs of the transnationals. The result is an industry which is not linked to the realities and needs of a country, as is the case in Puerto Rico, whose existense is only explained by the interest of feeding the enormous monopolistic profit rates through the merciless exploitation of the cheap labor force, which is paid much less than the wage levels in the United States; and of weathering in many cases an ecological deterioration due to contamination. A Caribbean Basin populated with export platforms of the Yankee transnationals, exporting toward the U.S. market on the basis of a fierce exploitation of the Caribbean and Central American workers and enjoying the advantages of the geographic proximity, in a varient as near as possible to the sad colonial situation of Puerto Rico, seems to be the dream cherished by the present tenant of the White House.

However, Mr Reagan's initiative does not end here. It also includes some so-called fiscal incentives for investments. They refer to the investment of private Yankee capital in the Basin's countries. It is necessary to warn before all this that foreign private capital is very present in the area, including U.S. capital whose direct investments in 1980 were calculated to be $11,946,000,000, not counting the enormous financial investment located in the financial centers established in such places as the Bahamas.

As an example, one can mention that the (Tate and Lyle) owns a large part of the sugarcane lands of Trinidad and Tobago, and its subsidiary, the Caroni Limited owns the majority of the sugarcane lands in Jamaica and Belize. The (Elders) and the United Fruits, today called United Brands, dominate the production and exportation of bananas of Jamaica. The (Quix) industries owns the largest plantations in Barbados, Dominica, St Lucia and St Vincent. In the production and refining of petroleum in Trinidad and Tobago, TEXACO, AMOCO, a subsidiary of the Standard Oil of Indiana, ESSO, Panamerican Oil, British Petroleum and the (W. Earl Greys) of New York are the actors. The four large U.S. aluminum companies, ALCOA, ALCAN, Reynolds and Kaiser are the protagonists in the profitable exploitation of bauxite, under the complacent eyes of Mr Seaga, the favorite lackey.

What effects has the Yankee capital which the Caribbean Basin has received for years had on the area? The history of the countries in the area, a history of imperialist looting, gives many examples of the underdeveloping effect of that capital. Only in the years 1979-1980, using data from the August 1981 "Survey of Current Business," a publication of the U.S. Government, one can see that for every dollar invested in the area, the Yankee transnationals extracted and remitted to their headquarters in the United States $2.24 as profits. In 1980, these transnationals obtained from the basin countries an enormous profit rate averaging 23 percent in regard to the capital paid out. These are eloquent expressions of the contribution of imperialist private capital to the development process and of the excellent business which it makes, taking advantage of the magic of the market in the Central American and Caribbean countries. Only in the last instance the magic disappears and reveals itself to be what it is; the conversion into profits of the energy and sweat of the area's workers.

Mr Reagan establishes, notwithstanding, strict restrictions for getting the privilege of receiving the private capital, which it is supposed, will go to the basin. He stresses the convenience of establishing bilateral investment treaties. Immediately, he offers the basic elements which his government considers for those treaties. Among them stand out two which are of undoubtedly imperialistic manufacture: prompt, adequate and effective compensation in cases of nationalization, and the unrestricted repatriation of profits and other assets. In other words, this means absolute guarantees for imperialist capital for its uncontrolled actions.

Mr Reagan reserved another strong missile of his Reaganomic arsenal -- financial aid -- for the end. However, he rapidly gave the basic definition: a large part of that aid will be concentrated in the private sector. He announced that he will ask Congress for a complementary allocation of $350 millions for the fiscal year 1982. This sum deserves to be analyzed as far as its amount and its significance is concerned. At first glance, it is a paltry price, too cheap for Mr Reagan's impossible objectives of stopping the revolution in the Caribbean and Central America. Although he cannot achieve this with any sum, what he is offering makes one laugh.

The UN Economic Commission for Latin America has calculated that for the economic needs of Central America along no less than $20 billion are needed for aid in the present decade. Reagan is offering $350 million for Central America and the Caribbean.

We must keep in mind that the public debt of the countries included in the Reagan initiative was $13,485,000,000 at the end of 1979 and today it exceeds $15 billion. For those countries, the interest on their debt was $867 million. Reagan offers less than half of the debt interest per year in a demonstration of abysmal stinginess. But as if that was not enough, the document that outlines the plan indicates that the $350 million will be handed out under the concept of so-called economic aid which will be used primarily to finance exports from private enterprise. This refers to ridiculous financial resources, relative to the size of the area and the dimension of problems which it seeks to alleviate, which will be applied toward financing exports from the private sector and to balance the balance of payments in the short term -- not to provide concessionary long-term credits and favorable conditions for their countries' use in developmental projects.

Meanwhile, the assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, Thomas Enders, has said that no less than $100 million of the $350 million will be given to El Salvador, in an attempt to prevent the fall, which is now inevitable, of the genocidal Christian Democratic junta. Those millions -- adding up to $81 million in the guise of military aid, which Mr Reagan gives the Salvadoran junta to massacre its people -- are basic elements of the initiative which Mr Reagan has been announcing for months without spelling out its content.

We are dealing with another imperialist plan directed at the domination and exploitation of countries in our America, of our America, as Marti called it to make a distinction from the other imperialist and aggressive America. Our national hero, who lived in the monster and got to know its insides and called it by its name, imperialist, also had the opportunity to confront a U.S. Government economic plan to place its yoke on our people in America. At that time he wrote a paragraph which still retains all of its formidable teaching validity. From independence up to today, America has never had a problem that requires more wisdom or more awareness, or demands a more clear and detailed study than the invitation which the powerful United States -- with its surplus of unmarketable products and its determination to expand its dominion in America -- has made to the less powerful nations of America -- nations committed to free and useful trade with European peoples -- in order to form a league against Europe. It is time to evaluate with a critical eye the facts, reasons and factors for the invitation. It is urgent to say -- because it is true -- that the time has come for Spanish America to declare its second independence.

COMMENTARY SCORES PROPOSED U.S. AID PLAN

PA031230 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 2 Mar 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan's statement and promises made during his recent appearance at the OAS have been received with obvious skepticism or absolute pessimism throughout the whole world. Not even the U.S.' closest allies in Latin America have dared to issue favorable opinions regarding the measures announced by the current U.S. President for allegedly solving the serious crisis affecting Central America. In fact, this could not be any other way because Reagan deflated even the most optimistic with a speech in which he basically repeated the same old stories that have never contributed nor can ever contribute toward solving the Central American situation. The only new thing said by the U.S. President -- the $350 million in economic aid he promised to the Central American countries -- fell short of everybody's expectations.

U.S. transnational companies extract from those countries much more than $350 million in profits. The total foreign debt of each of those Central American nations that Reagan has promised to help amounts to more than $350 million.

In view of the real situation in Central America, and after the proposals made by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo for finding a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis, some expected the U.S. President to come up with some concrete, sensible proposals. However, this did not happen and, as the French paper LE MONDE says, the plan proposed by Reagan means nothing more than a simple booster for the Central American oligarchies that are in power.

The U.S. President limited himself to repeating his accusations against Cuba and Nicaragua, countries that he absurdly blame for the just rebellion of peoples in the region, especially of the Salvadoran people. Moreover, he again proposed increasing foreign investment as a solution to the serious social and economic crisis faced by the Central American peoples.

Nothing is more absurd than this, since the exploitation generated by such investments is precisely one of the main causes of the economic crisis. The people are fighting against these investments, convinced that they will not enjoy true independence while the riches they generate through their work are taken away by national and foreign capitalists who own the means of production.

During his speech at the OAS, President Reagan praised the genocidal Salvadoran junta, which he supports with all sorts of aid to keep it in power.

This praise for the Salvadoran regime came precisely when international repudiation of crimes committed in El Salvador by the tyranny headed by the Salvadoran militarymen and their civilian ally, Jose Napoleon Duarte, is most intense.

Reagan announced that he will increase military aid to the genocidal Salvadoran junta while throughout world, even in the United States, there is an increasing clamor in favor of suspending that type of aid lent by the Washington government, which contributes to the genocide of thousands of Salvadoran citizens.

As though to further aggravate the prevailing situation in the area, Reagan expressed new threats of military intervention and other aggressions against El Salvador, Nicaragua and Cuba. No person with a minimum dose of commonsense can believe that this is the way to solve the critical Central American situation, which has been created by the imperialist policies of the United States.

DPRK'S HO TAM CONTINUES VISIT TO HAVANA

Foreign Ministry Talks

FL051325 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] The talks between Cuba's Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have begun at the main offices of the Foreign Ministry in Havana. The talks are headed by Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca and Korea's Foreign Minister Ho Tam.

Meeting With Rodriguez

FL061238 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received DPRK's Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ho Tam and the members of the delegation accompanying him on his visit to Cuba. During the talks, various aspects of the current international situation were discussed, laying special stress on the role and activities of the Nonaligned Movement. Other matters dealing with the bilateral relations between Cuba and Korea were also examined.

MALMIERCA GOES TO GENEVA FOR NONALIGNED MEETING

FL061252 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has departed for Geneva, Switzerland, where a nonaligned countries' ministerial committee meeting will be held. This committee has been charged with the responsibility of seeking a political, peaceful, just and honorable solution to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. The committee is formed by the foreign ministers from India, Narasimha Rao, and from Zambia, Professor Lameck Goma; and the chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi.

ALBANIAN REPRESENTATIVE SIGNS TRADE AGREEMENTS

FL051335 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 82

[Text] An agreement on the exchange of goods and payments which will guide relations between Cuba and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania for the period ending in 1985 has been signed by representatives of the two countries. A trade protocol for 1982 and an agreement regarding the fixing of prices from 1982 to 1985 were also signed.